



## OUR LADY OF REPARATION RC CHURCH

(ST MARY'S)

70 Wellesley Road, West Croydon CR0 2AR

Tel: 02086881857 Email: [croydonwest@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:croydonwest@rcaos.org.uk)

Website: [www.saint-mary.org.uk](http://www.saint-mary.org.uk)

Fr Patrick Feyisetan (Parish Priest)

Fr Celestine Ekwueme (Assistant Priest)

Fr Peter Sebastian (Assistant Priest)

Revd. Vincent Morrison (Deacon)

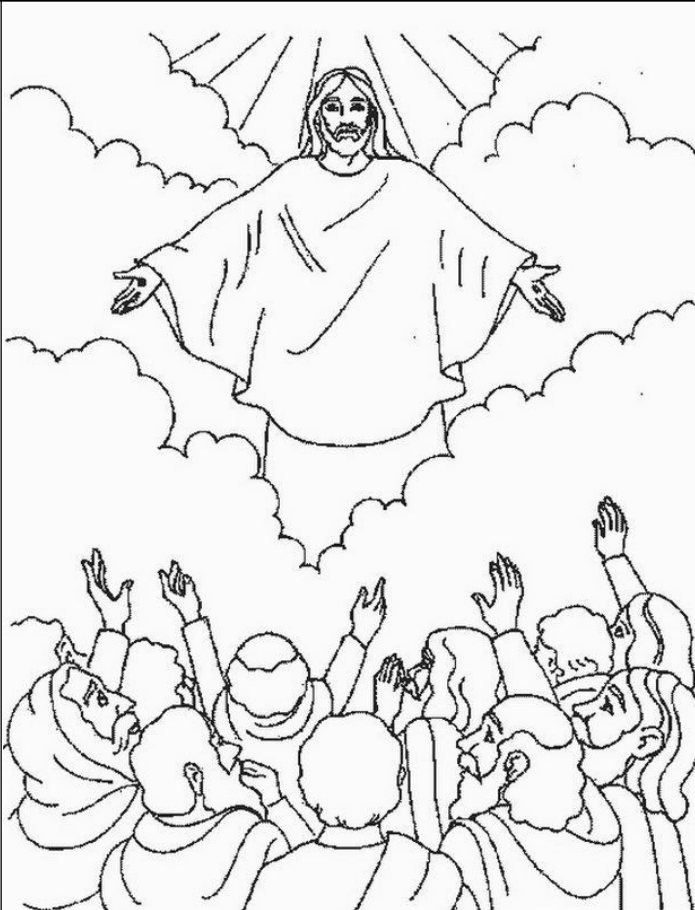
**SUNDAY MASS TIMES:** 7:00pm (Saturday); 8am, 9:15am; 10:45am; 12:15pm, 3:00pm & 6:00pm

**WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:** 10am; 12:10pm (**ONLINE ONLY**) & 6.45pm Saturday: 10am

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:** Weekday 12:45pm – 6:00pm; Sat. 10:45am – 6.00pm  
(ONLY ACCESSIBLE ONLINE)

### THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD: B

13TH MAY 2021



#### Entrance Antiphon

Acts 1: 11

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?  
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven  
will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

#### Gloria:

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of  
the Father, have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
**Amen.**

#### Collect

Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God,  
and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving,  
for the Ascension of Christ your Son  
is our exaltation,  
and, where the Head has gone before in glory,  
the Body is called to follow in hope.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

**First reading**

**Acts 1:1-11**

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

**The word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps. 46(47):2-3,6-9**

**R. God goes up with shouts of joy;  
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.**

All peoples, clap your hands,  
cry to God with shouts of joy!  
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,  
great king over all the earth. **R.**

God goes up with shouts of joy;  
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.  
Sing praise for God, sing praise,  
sing praise to our king, sing praise. **R.**

God is king of all the earth,  
sing praise with all your skill.

God is king over the nations;  
God reigns on his holy throne. **R.**

**Second reading**

**Ephesians 4:1-13**

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all.

Each one of us, however, has been given his own share of grace, given as Christ allotted it. It was said that he would:

*When he ascended to the height, he captured prisoners,  
he gave gifts to men.*

When it says, 'he ascended', what can it mean if not that he descended right down to the lower regions of the earth? The one who rose higher than all the heavens to fill all things is none other than the one who descended. And to some, his gift was that they should be apostles; to some, prophets; to some, evangelists; to some, pastors and teachers; so that the saints together make a unity in the work of service, building up the body of Christ. In this way we are all to come to unity in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God, until we become the perfect Man, fully mature with the fullness of Christ himself.

**The word of the Lord**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Mt28:19,20**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Go, make disciples of all the nations.  
I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel**

**Mark 16:15-20**

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them:

'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast

out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

### **The Gospel of the Lord**

#### **Homily**

#### **The Creed**

I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only-Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
He came down from heaven,  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary  
and became man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, Catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins,  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

#### **Prayer over the Offerings**

We offer sacrifice now in supplication, O Lord,  
to honour the wondrous Ascension of your Son:  
grant, we pray,  
that through this most holy exchange  
we, too, may rise up to the heavenly realms.  
Through Christ our Lord.

#### **Sanctus:**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

#### **Agnus Dei:**

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.

#### **Communion Antiphon**

**Mt 28: 20**

Behold, I am with you always,  
even to the end of the age, alleluia.

#### **Prayer after Communion**

Almighty ever-living God,  
who allow those on earth  
to celebrate divine mysteries,  
grant, we pray,  
that Christian hope may draw us onward  
to where our nature is united with you.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**IN CASE OF HOSPITAL ADMISSION:** If any Catholic you know is taken to the hospital, please let us have their details so we can link them up with Catholic chaplains in the hospitals for proper spiritual care.



**MAY IS HERE!** Let's bring out our Rosaries and increase our devotion to our Blessed Mother, the Immaculate Virgin Mary.

### **BOOKING OF MASSES**

Do you want to have Holy Mass(es) offered for your intention(s), for the sick or deceased, or thanksgiving to God for favours received? If you are not restricted from going out, write your intention(s), enclose it in an envelope with your offering and drop it in the Parish House letter box. If you are making an offering by cheque, make it payable to St Mary's Catholic Church. You may also send your intention to the parish email address: [croydonwest@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:croydonwest@rcaos.org.uk) and make your donation online via the parish app or directly to the parish account:

**Bank: NatWest**

**Account Name: St Mary's West Croydon**

**Account Number: 36004219**

**Sort code: 605001**

**Pray for those who have died recently:** Stella Roberts, Kathleen Chrissie Edwards, Bertha Pierre, Angel Sarmiento, Julian Xavier. May they rest in peace, Amen.

### **PARISH VOCATIONS' PROMOTION APOSTOLATE**

Special thanks to all who have been sending their contribution to the second collection for the training of priests and deacons. Our parish project of prayer has since begun with the daily prayer for Vocations at all Masses celebrated in our parish. Please, let us make this part of our daily family prayer as we also encourage our young boys to draw closer to Christ who may speak to them personally about offering of themselves for service of their brothers and sisters in the Church as priests. We are still collecting the slips distributed for joining the apostolate and also the envelopes for donating towards the fund. Our little donations can make a huge difference in the life of our diocese. May the Lord bless our generous hearts.

### **REFLECTION: ASCENSION OF OUR LORD**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, in his risen and glorified body, ascended into heaven forty days after the Resurrection. The image of sitting at the right hand of the Father, which we say also in the Creed, echoes Psalm 110:1, and is mentioned in Acts (2:33) and Mark (16:19). It signifies the universal and eternal rule of the Messiah prophesied in the Book of Daniel (7:14). The Apostles witnessed the moment of the Ascension with their own eyes (Mark 16:19; Luke 24:51, Acts 1:1-11). It is a historical fact, just as they had seen and touched the risen Christ. But what does the Ascension signify? It signifies that God the Son, Jesus Christ, fully God and fully human, has taken our humanity into God, into the relationship of love and truth that is the Blessed Trinity. That is just how precious we are, that our very human nature, created by God in his own image and redeemed by Christ, is now fully absorbed into God. The Ascension is our own exaltation and glorification, because we have been deemed worthy as Christ's disciples and "friends" (John 15:15) to be united with God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit into eternity. As St Paul says in Ephesians (4:13): "In this way we are all to come to unity in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God, until we become the perfect Man, fully mature with the fullness of Christ himself." That does not mean every human being is automatically saved from death and sin and will be united with God. Our co-operation, our faith, our selfless love of God and of one another is still required. An act of will is still required both to acknowledge and to live the truth and love of Christ in humility. "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" (Mt 5:8). The Ascension is by no means the end of the story. Rather, it is a necessary prelude to the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, and who through our Baptism guides us through this world to the incarnate, crucified, risen and ascended Christ in God's heavenly kingdom. See also: *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 659-664.

**NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT BEGINS ON FRIDAY 14TH MAY AS PART OF OUR PREPARATION FOR PENTECOST. FIND RESOURCES FOR THIS ON OUR PARISH WEBSITE.**